

16. (ONCE AMENDED) The slide show system of claim 17, wherein the system does not require manual advancement of the address information by the user.

17. (ONCE AMENDED) A slide show system, comprising:
a browser unit to obtain web page information using address information defined on an information network and to output the obtained information;
a storage unit to store a predetermined correspondence relationship between a plurality of pieces of address information of web page information and a plurality of sequence numbers representing a predetermined output sequence that is specified by a user; and
a control unit to increment a control variable indicating one of the sequence numbers, to refer to the correspondence relationship to obtain address information corresponding to a sequence number indicated by the variable, to inform the obtained address information to the browser unit, and to instruct output of web page information corresponding to the informed address information.

REMARKS

In the Office Action mailed on November 20, 2002, claims 1, 10-11, and 16 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by Bretschneider et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,008,807) ("Bretschneider"); and claims 2-9, 12-15, and 17 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Bretschneider. The foregoing rejections are respectfully traversed.

Claims 1-17 are pending in the subject application, of which claims 1, 12-14, and 17 are independent. Claims 3-5, 7, 8, 10-14, 16, and 17 are amended herein and claims 1, 2, and 15 are canceled herein. Care has been exercised to avoid the introduction of new matter. A Version With Markings To Show Changes Made to the specification and amended claims is included herewith.

Bretschneider discusses a presentation performed that relies on a technology associated with a computer-based slide show. According to the system in Bretschneider, the contents of a slide show can be customized to suit the type of an audience of concern (Bretschneider, col. 3, lines 1-19). A presenter can add to a presented slide show an additional slide if the presenter so wishes (Bretschneider, col. 11, lines 29-33) by activating a "Custom Show" button. Separately,

by embedding, in advance, a hyper-link button that is associated with determiners of addresses that are comparable to URL addresses, the presenter can present slides in a predetermined order (Bretschneider, col. 9, line 48 – col. 10, line 16), or can optionally incorporate in advance a set of narrations so that it is provided together with a slide show (Bretschneider, col. 11, lines 14-16).

In this way, Bretschneider enables a presenter to incorporate any additional slides as the presenter may wish and/or to incorporate web pages into a slide show by embedding, in advance, a hyperlink button associated with a URL address. However, Bretschneider does not disclose or suggest a configuration for registering, in advance, a plurality of URL addresses specifying web pages together with presentation order specifying numbers in an associated manner and presenting these specified web pages in a predetermined order.

In contrast, in the present invention, a set of data correlating web page addresses and sequence numbers specifying a presentation order of associated web pages is stored in advance and a browser displays these web pages according to the set of data to conduct a session of a slide show consisting of a plurality of web pages in an efficient manner.

For example, claim 12 of the subject application (as amended herein) recites “referring to a correspondence relationship between a plurality of pieces of address information defined on an information network for web page information and the sequence numbers to obtain address information corresponding to a sequence number indicated by the variable; and informing the obtained address information to a browser, and instructing output of web page information corresponding to the informed address information.”

Claim 13 of the subject application (as amended herein) recites “referring to a correspondence relationship between a plurality of pieces of address information defined on an information network for web page information and the sequence numbers to obtain address information corresponding to a sequence number indicated by the variable; obtaining web page information using the obtained address information; and outputting the obtained web page information.”

Claim 14 of the subject application (as amended herein) recites “preparing a correspondence relationship between a plurality of pieces of address information defined on an information network for web page information and a plurality of sequence numbers of a predetermined output sequence that is specified by a user; ... obtaining address information corresponding to a sequence number indicated by the variable with reference to the

correspondence relationship; obtaining web page information using the obtained address information; and presenting the obtained web page information."

Claim 17 of the subject application (as amended herein) recites "a storage unit to store a predetermined correspondence relationship between a plurality of pieces of address information of web page information and a plurality of sequence numbers representing a predetermined output sequence that is specified by a user; and a control unit to ... to refer to the correspondence relationship to obtain address information corresponding to a sequence number indicated by the variable, to inform the obtained address information to the browser unit, and to instruct output of web page information corresponding to the informed address information."

Clearly, claims 12-14 and 17 are patentably distinguishable over Bretschneider. In addition, claims 3-11 and 16 are allowable based in part on their dependency, directly or indirectly, from one of allowable claims 12-14 and 17.

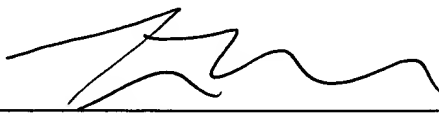
Withdrawal of the foregoing rejections is respectfully requested.

There being no further objections or rejections, it is submitted that the application is in condition for allowance, which action is courteously requested. Finally, if there are any formal matters remaining after this response, the Examiner is requested to telephone the undersigned to attend to these matters. If there are any additional fees associated with filing of this Amendment, please charge the same to our Deposit Account No. 19-3935.

Respectfully submitted,

STAAS & HALSEY LLP

Date: 3-17-2003

By: 
Matthew Q. Ammon
Registration No. 50,346

700 Eleventh Street, NW, Suite 500
Washington, D.C. 20001
(202) 434-1500

VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please CANCEL claims 1, 2, and 15.

Please AMEND claims 3-5, 7, 8, 10-14, 16, and 17. The remaining claims are reprinted, as a convenience to the Examiner, as they presently stand before the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office.

1. (CANCELED)
2. (CANCELED)
3. (TWICE AMENDED) The slide show system according to claim [2] 17, further comprising:
an operation unit to allow the user to specify web page information to be outputted next, wherein
the control unit informs address information corresponding to the specified web page information by the operation unit to the browser unit.
4. (TWICE AMENDED) The slide show system according to claim 3, wherein the operation unit specifies one of the [address] web page information pieces before and after web page information currently being outputted as the web page information to be outputted next.
5. (TWICE AMENDED) The slide show system according to claim [2] 17, wherein the control unit informs the plurality of pieces of address information to the browser unit according to the output sequence.
6. (ONCE AMENDED) The slide show system according to claim 5, wherein the control unit informs the plurality of pieces of address information to the browser unit at prescribed time intervals.
7. (TWICE AMENDED) The slide show system according to claim 6, wherein the

control unit changes the time intervals according to each of the plurality of sequence numbers.

8. (TWICE AMENDED) The slide show system according to claim [1] 17, further comprising:

a sound output unit to output sound information including at least one of music and a narration, wherein

the control unit instructs the sound output unit to output the sound information.

9. (ONCE AMENDED) The slide show system according to claim 8, wherein the control unit determines sound information to be outputted according to a user-specified sequence number of the address information representing the output sequence.

10. (TWICE AMENDED) The slide show system according to claim [1] 17, wherein the browser unit obtains web page information via a communication network using address information informed by the control unit.

11. (TWICE AMENDED) The slide show system according to claim [1] 17, further comprising:

a storage unit to store web page information to be outputted corresponding to address information, wherein

the browser unit obtains web page information which is stored in the storage unit using address information informed by the control unit.

12. (TWICE AMENDED) A computer-readable storage medium which stores a program for causing a computer to perform [functions comprising]:

incrementing a control variable indicating one of a plurality of sequence numbers of a predetermined output sequence that is specified by a user;

referring to a correspondence relationship between a plurality of pieces of address information defined on an information network for web page information and [a plurality of] the sequence numbers [of a predetermined output sequence that is specified by a user] to obtain address information corresponding to a sequence number indicated by the variable; and

informing the obtained address information [corresponding to a current sequence number] to a browser, and instructing output of web page information corresponding to the [thus-

]informed address information.

13. (TWICE AMENDED) A computer-readable storage medium which stores a program for causing a computer to perform [functions comprising]:

incrementing a control variable indicating one of a plurality of sequence numbers of a predetermined output sequence that is specified by a user;

referring to a correspondence relationship between a plurality of pieces of address information defined on an information network for web page information and [a plurality of] the sequence numbers [of a predetermined output sequence that is specified by a user] to obtain address information corresponding to a sequence number indicated by the variable;

obtaining web page information using the obtained address information [corresponding to a current sequence number]; and

outputting the obtained web page information.

14. (TWICE AMENDED) A slide show method comprising:

preparing a correspondence relationship between a plurality of pieces of address information defined on an information network for web page information and a plurality of sequence numbers of a predetermined output sequence that is specified by a user;

incrementing a control variable indicating one of the sequence numbers;

obtaining address information corresponding to a [current] sequence number indicated by the variable with reference to the correspondence relationship;

obtaining web page information using the obtained address information [corresponding to the current sequence number]; and

presenting the obtained web page information.

15. (CANCELED)

16. (ONCE AMENDED) The slide show system of claim [1] 17, wherein the system does not require manual advancement of the address information by the user.

17. (ONCE AMENDED) A slide show system, comprising:

a browser unit to obtain web page information using address information defined on an information network and to output the obtained information;

a storage unit to store a predetermined correspondence relationship between a plurality of pieces of address information of web page information and a plurality of sequence numbers representing [a user-specified output sequence] a predetermined output sequence that is specified by a user; and

a control unit to increment a control variable indicating one of the sequence numbers, to refer to the correspondence relationship to obtain address information corresponding to a sequence number indicated by the variable, to inform the obtained address information to the browser unit [according to a predetermined output sequence that is specified by a user], and to instruct output of web page information corresponding to the informed address information.